XBLADE
STORY BY IDA TATSUHIKO
COMIC BY SHIKI SATOSHI
4

# XBLADE 4

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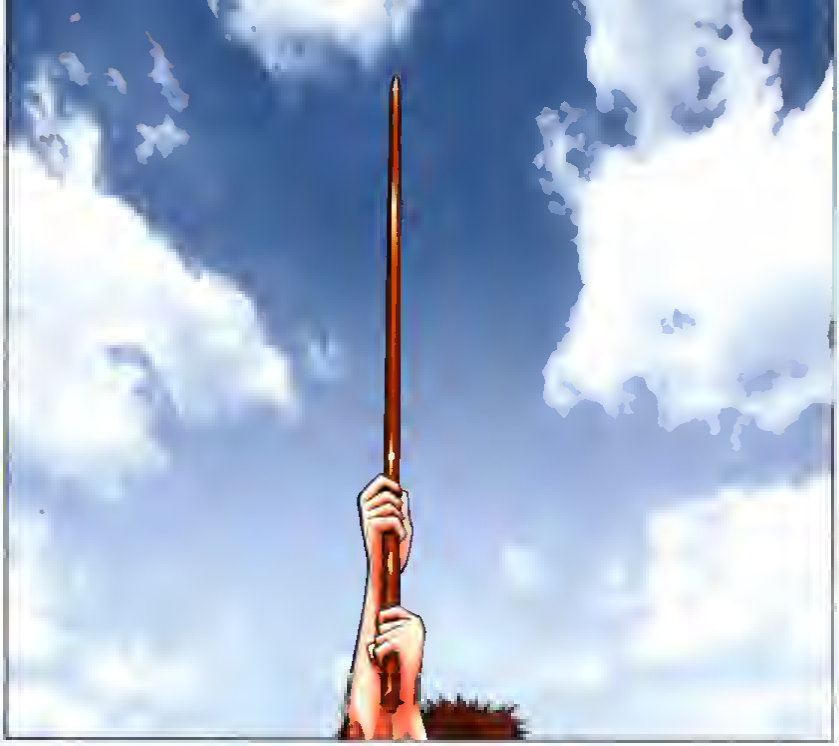
## [前巻まで]

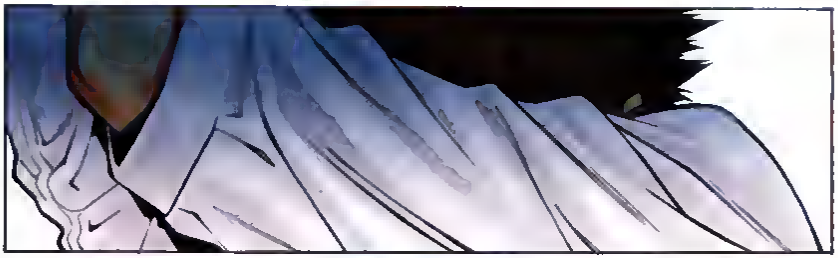
四年前、未曾有の「大災厄」が東京を襲った。23区の半ばが壊滅、死者・行方不明者は200万人に達した。比較的被害の少なかった都内外縁の12区を残し、被災地は治安悪化を理由に何重にも防壁が張られて封鎖区域指定された。それが「東京第十三区」である。

「大災厄」で家族を失い第十三区からただひとり生還した高校生のハルは下校途中、日本刀を振るう大男・不二丸と銃器を乱射する特殊部隊との戦いに巻き込まれる。その最中、ハルは戦いの元となった化性応身刀「真名」を手にしてその場から逃走する。翌朝目が覚めると、刀は美しい少女の姿になっていた。360年前がら刀の姿で眠っていたという少女・真名をアパートにかくまったものの、葵機関や不二丸の仲間の「ななつさや」の手はハルの周辺に迫ってくる。そのような状況の中、ハルは「大災厄」で失った過去と向き合うため、真名と共に第十三区への侵入を決意する。

しかし、ハルたちの動きは葵機関の網にかかり、第十三区の壁の前で彼らに包囲される。そこに奇襲をかけてきた「ななつさや」の二尾と空五倍子。血臭に満ちた修羅場の中で、ハルの中に眠る真名の使い手・空士朗が目覚め、真名を化性応身刀へと転身させて、ななつさや二人を斬り伏せる。しかし、その一部始終は葵機関を動かす代議士・松平の知るところとなり、ハルに接触してきて、「大災厄」の正体とその原因が日本の第五の州「ヤマタ」の不完全な復活によるものだということや、ななつさやがヤマタの戦闘部隊だということを語る。

葵機関から監視と護衛のために派遣されてきた騎術剣士クリスに反発したハルは、彼女に剣道で勝負を挑むが惨敗し、ななつさやを斬り伏せた力が空士朗からの借り物であったことを思い知らされる。「刀」である真名が哀れだとクリスに侮蔑されたハルは、真名に応えられる強さを身につけることを決意し、カズナリの祖父の古流剣術道場の門を叩く。そして、そこで引き合わされた久藤清一は空士朗と同じ剣技を見せたのだった。

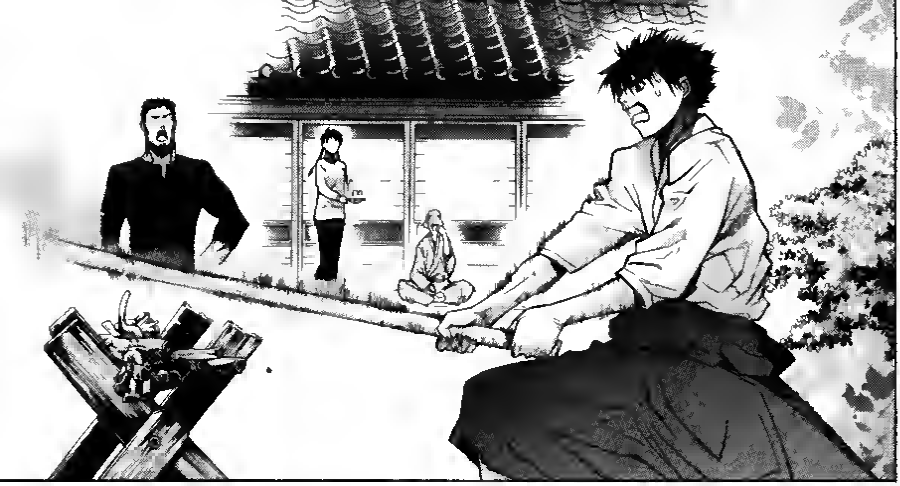




X.14 EVIL SPIRIT
ZEA AAA AH- HH!!

GAH!
AAAH!
AH!

IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT SWINGING WITH A LOT OF POWER!
LET THE BLADE FLOW INTO YOUR EVERY SINEW!
UGH...
DON'T FORGET THE CORRECT FORM!
UWAAA AAAH-HHH!!
FX MUNCH



THANKS.
OHHH..
HERE'S SOME TEA.

HE'S GOT MORE DISCIPLINE THAN WHEN HE WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.
HARU'S GETTING HIS FORM BACK PRETTY QUICKLY.
HMM, NOT TOO BADLY.
HOW'S HARU DOING?

IS THAT SO?
.....
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
LIKE THAT, HE'S STILL PRACTICALLY USELESS.
MAYBE.
I THINK HE'S AT A PRETTY GOOD LEVEL.

AHAHA.
AH.

THAT KUSAKADO-SAN'S GRANDFATHER AND YOU ARE OLD ACQUAINTANCES.
BUT IT'S SURPRISING,

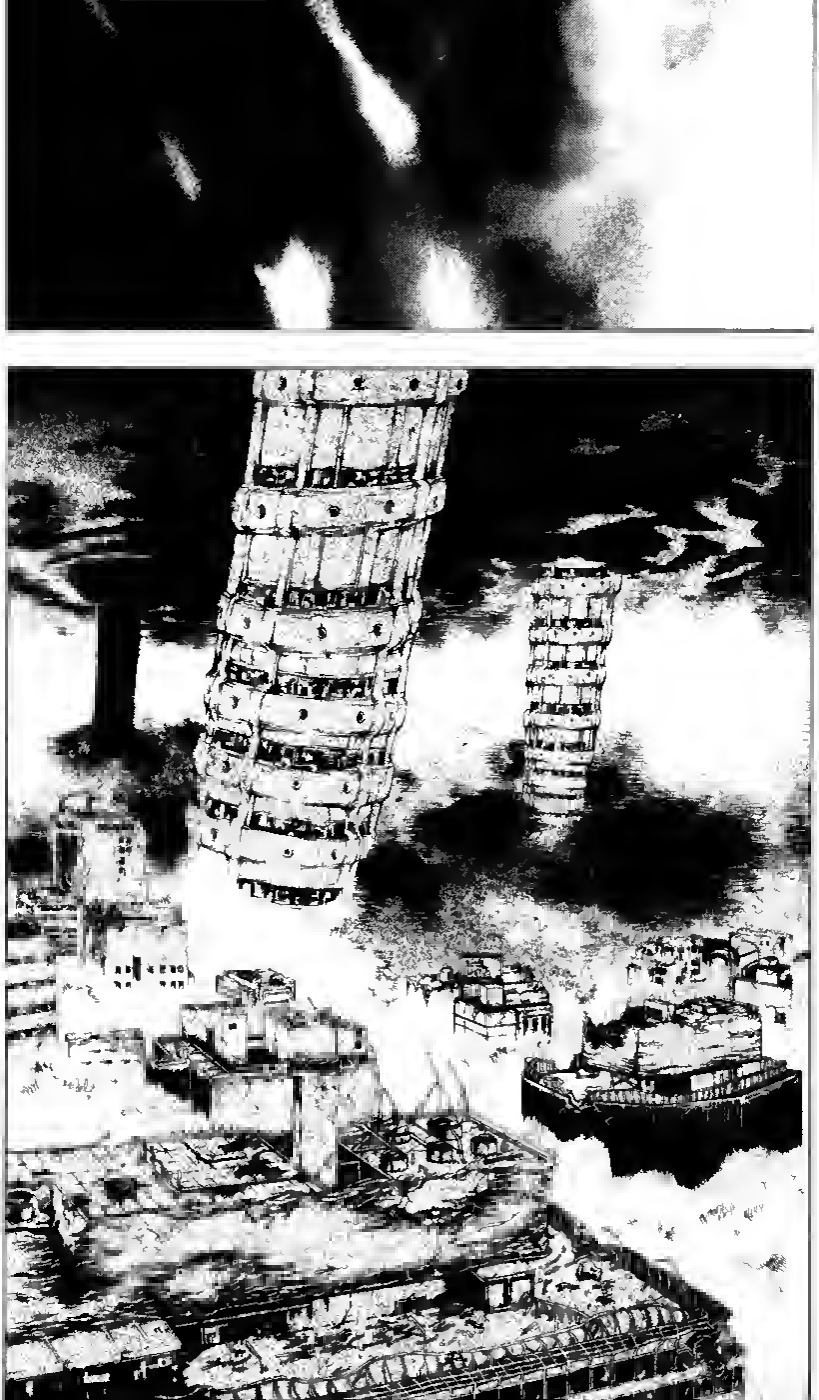
KAORI-SAN.
SORRY I WAS LATE COMING TO INTRODUCE MYSELF - I HAD SOME VERY PRESSING BUSINESS.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THIS OLD MAN IS AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE.

SORRY FOR MAKING YOU SERVE ME TEA.
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I HAD SOME GOOD JAPANESE TEA.
YOU MAKE IT VERY WELL.
I STILL NEED MORE TRAINING.
AH, NO WAY..

SPEAKING OF WHICH...

WHERE DID KAZUNARI GO?

GAA
AAH-
HH!



FUJI-MARU RAN AWAY?
YES.

AND HAS CONFINED HIMSELF THERE.
HE RETREATED TO THE UNDERGROUND PRISON

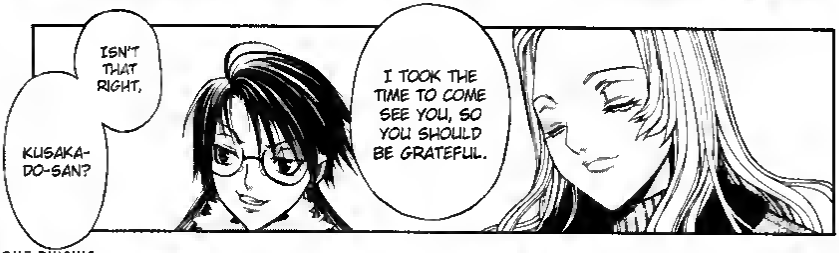
I'M VERY SORRY.
I SEE.
WELL, I FIGURED THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
WELL, WHAT-EVER.
I'LL LEAVE DISPOSING OF FUJI-MARU TO YOU SEVEN SHEATHES.
SUOU...

I UNDERSTAND THAT THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO DON'T APPROVE OF ME HAVING CONTROL OF YAMATA'S FULL POWER
!
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO, THEN THERE'S NO REASON TO FORCE YOURSELF TO BOW YOUR HEAD
WOULD YOU BE HAPPY IF I WERE CUT DOWN RIGHT HERE?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...
YOU...
HAH!

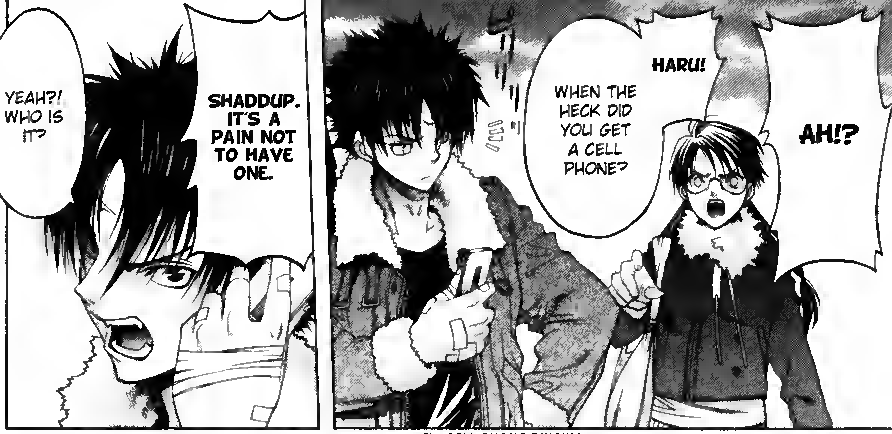
AHA HAHA HA!
I'M JOKING, JUST JOKING!

I DON'T REALLY FEEL LIKE DYING YET.
OKAY, SHOU?

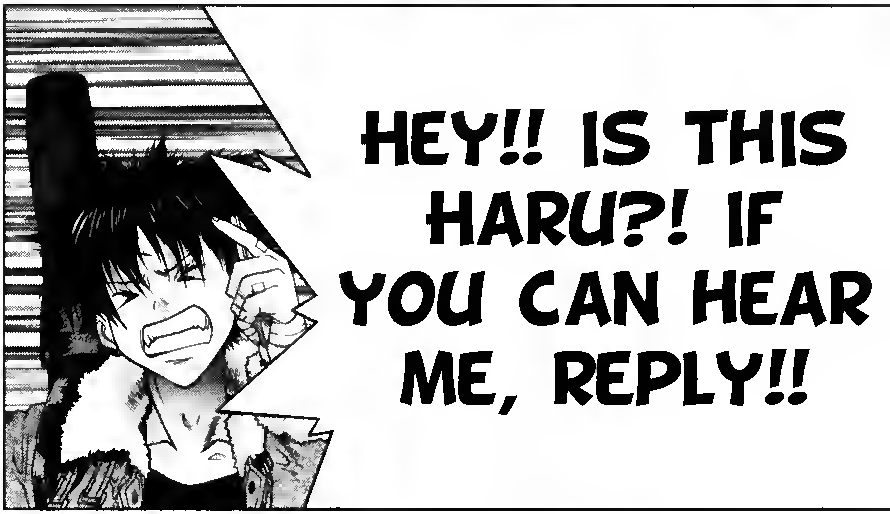
WHAT'RE YOU TWO DOING CROWDING AROUND ME ALL THE TIME?
WHAT? YOU CAN'T CONCENTRATE IF YOU'RE BEING WATCHED?
THAT'S RIGHT! WHY ARE YOU COMPLAINING, STANDING BETWEEN TWO BEAUTIES?
GRR

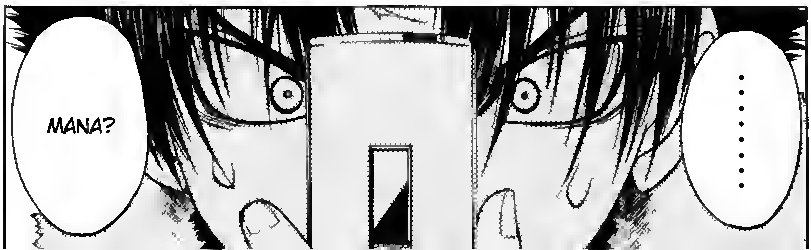



FX PHONE RINGING




FX: CELL PHONE RINGING



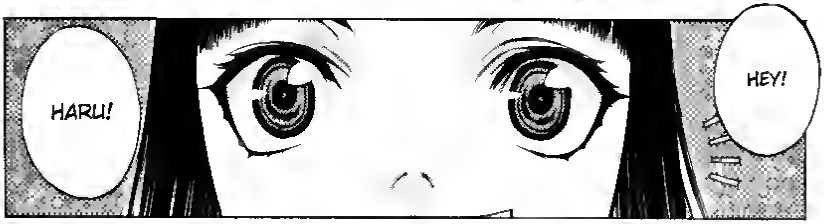


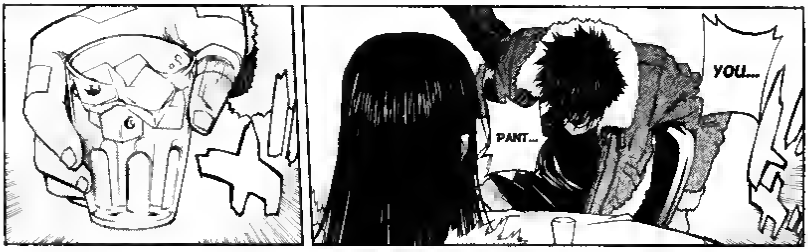
HEY!
MANA?
HEY! WHOSE PHONE ARE YOU CALLING FROM?!
WAI... HEY! THIS NUMBER IS...
I'M AT A TEA SHOP CALLED "CAMELOT" IN FRONT OF THE STATION!!
COME PICK ME UP!!
OKAY! HURRY UP AND COME GET ME!
CLICK
MANA!!
LATER!
AH.. YEAH. .I SUDDENLY GOT SOME-THING TO DO.
UMM... HARU..

HEY!
HARU!

GEEZ!
WE'RE GOING BACK!

きゃめろっと
CAMELOT
CAFE


HARU!
HEY!


YOU...
PANT...

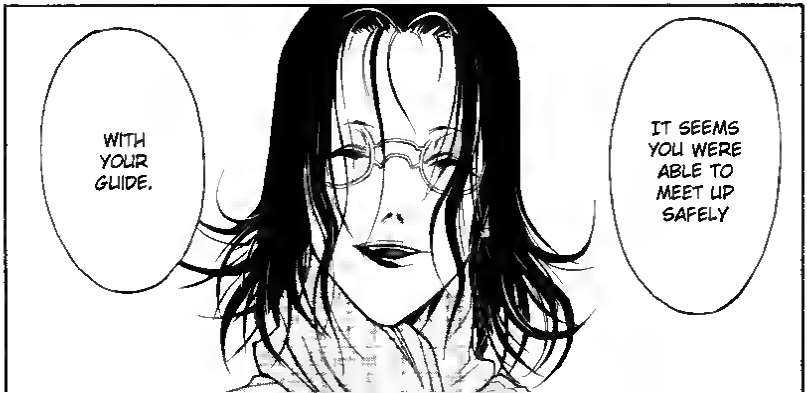
FX GLUG GLUG

FX: BAM
MANA!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? AND WHOSE CELL PHONE WAS THAT JUST NOW, ANYWAY?!
AND WHILE EATING A PARFAIT! AND WHY ARE YOU ALL DRESSED UP?!
AH, DAMNIT, I DON'T GET IT. WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?
CALM DOWN.
YOU'RE TOO LOUD.
I CAME OUT TO BUY INGREDIENTS FOR DINNER.

I DECIDED TO MAKE IT FOR YOU.
I SAW A RECIPE FOR PORK-BASED MISO SOUP THAT LOOKED GOOD.
DO YOU HAVE ANY MONEY?!
AH...
CORRECT. HOWEVER, I ENDED UP BECOMING COMPLETELY LOST
THAT'S RIGHT. I GUESS I PUT MY CELL PHONE NUMBER AND ADDRESS IN THERE TOO.
THE MONEY I GAVE YOU TO USE IN EMERGENCIES...
NO WAY YOU'D BE ABLE TO DO IT YOUR FIRST TIME GOING OUT.
OBVIOUSLY.

AH, GOOD, GOOD.
WHO'D YOU GET THE CELL PHONE FROM ANYWAY?




WITH YOUR GUIDE.
IT SEEMS YOU WERE ABLE TO MEET UP SAFELY

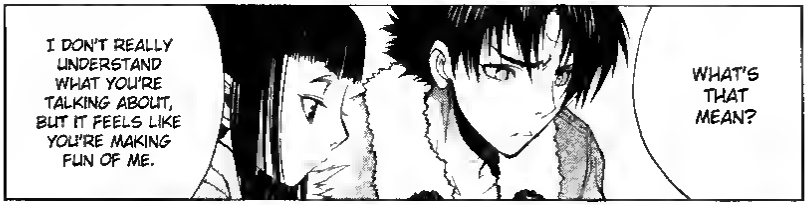
YOU CAUSED HIM THIS MUCH TROUBLE?!
AH?!
AH!
THIS PERSON
EH? WHO'S THIS?
DID HE LEND YOU HIS CELL PHONE?
WE'LL BE HEADING HOME NOW.
UM, WE'RE VERY SORRY TO HAVE BOTHERED YOU!
EH?
HAHA.
I'M VERY SORRY! I'LL PAY YOU BACK!
AH...
I CAN'T... FINISH ALL THIS BY MYSELF.
THAT'S TROUBLESOME.

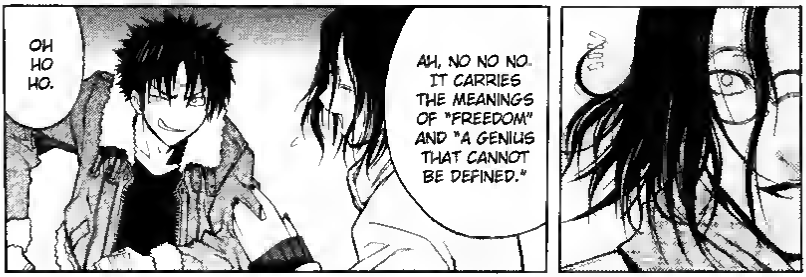
IT'S OKAY.
SINCE I'M TREATING YOU, PLEASE TAKE RESPONSIBILITY AND EAT UP.
OF COURSE!
UM..
MAY I ASK YOUR NAME?
HARUMI.
I'M MORISAKI HARUMI.
MORISAKI-KUN...

I AM MASUDA.
MASUDA SHIROU.
NICE TO MEET YOU, MORISAKI HARUMI-KUN.
HUH...
UM, YEAH, NICE TO MEET YOU TOO.
MORI-SAKI-KUN..
ARE YOU INTER-ESTED IN FORTUNE-TELLING?
FORTUNE TELLING?
NO, I DON'T BELIEVE IN THAT KIND OF STUFF AT ALL.
AHAHA. I ACTUALLY RUN A FORTUNE-TELLING SHOP RIGHT OVER THERE

VERY WELL...
PLEASE TELL MY FORTUNE!
YES! I'M VERY SORRY!
JUST TO TRY IT OUT, I WILL TRY TO TELL ABOUT YOUR CURRENT SITUATION.
THIS IS THE CARD THAT REPRESENTS YOU, MORISAKI-KUN.

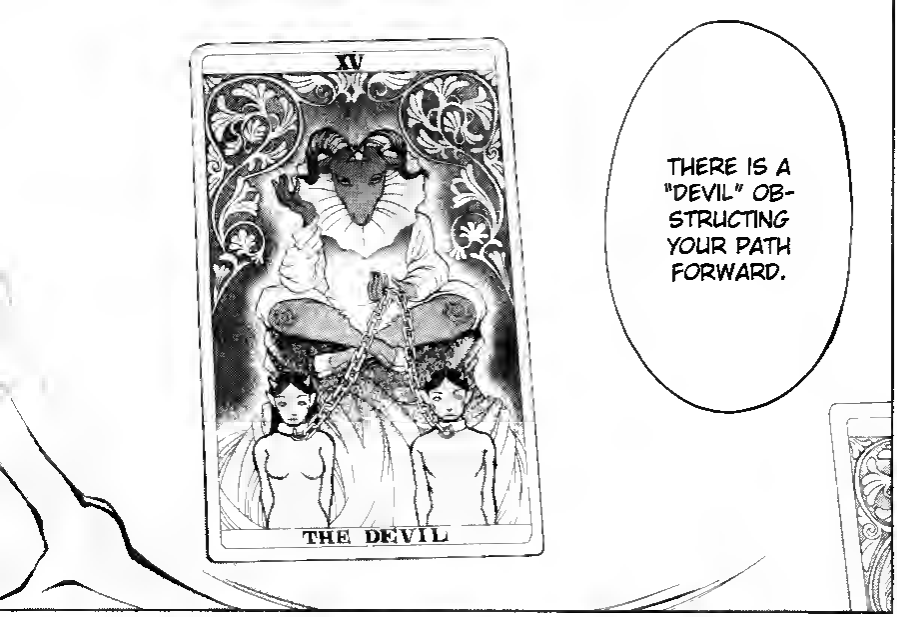
IT IS THE FOOL, SEIICHI.


I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, BUT IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE MAKING FUN OF ME.
WHAT'S THAT MEAN?

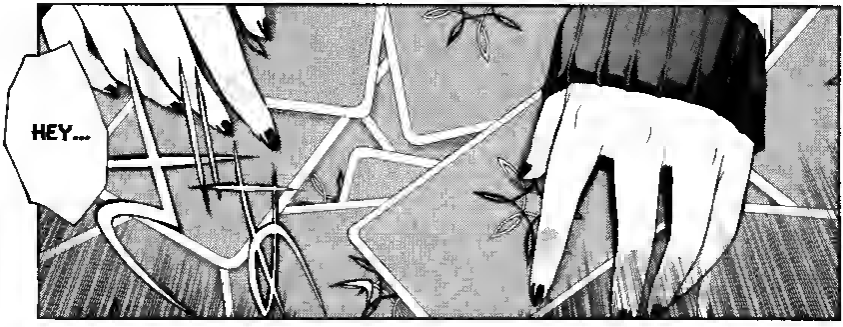

OH HO HO.
AH, NO NO NO. IT CARRIES THE MEANINGS OF "FREEDOM" AND "A GENIUS THAT CANNOT BE DEFINED."
...?

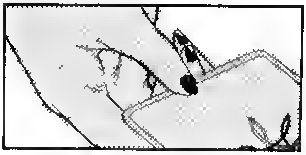
HAHA... YOU REQUIRE SOMEONE PATIENT AND DEVOTED.
YES...
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
AS FOR LOVE...
AREN'T YOU JUST AN IDIOT?

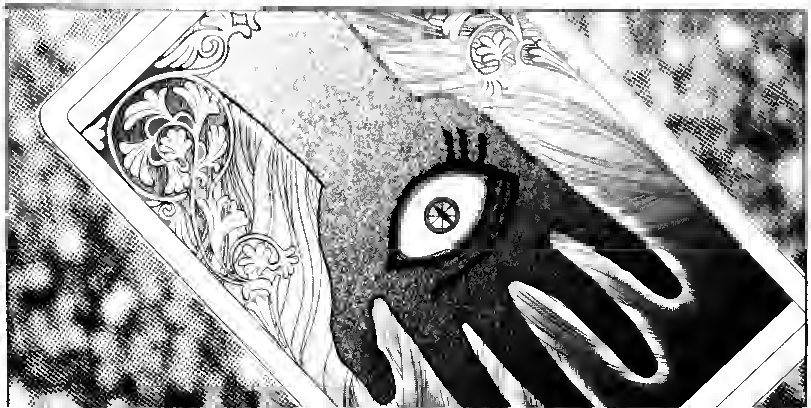
THAT'S NOT VERY GOOD...
YOUR COMPANION CARD IS "THE MOON".
NEXT...
AND NOW...
!!
I BELIEVE YOUR FAMILY WAS LOST QUITE SUDDENLY IN A DISASTER?
MY CONDOLENCES.


XV
THE DEVIL
THERE IS A "DEVIL" OBSTRUCTING YOUR PATH FORWARD.

HEY...
THAT'S ENOUGH OF THIS ALREADY...
.....


HEY...





...JIN!

YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS, MANA?!
IT IS THE SWORD-SMITH OF THE HERETIC BLADES.
IT IS WHAT TURNED ME INTO A GUARDIAN BLADE.
!
THAT'S RIGHT...
JIN ESTARK,
THE MAD ALCHEMIST.

I BELIEVE YOU'VE MET HIM TOO.
MORISAKI-KUN...
YOU...
Y...

AH!

YOU'VE GOTTEN RATHER GOOD, KRIS.

HEH...
HOW DARE YOU BREAK INTO MY UNHOLY GROUND.

SHUT UP, TOKÍ-SADA!
YOU DAMNED TRAITOR!
TRAITOR?!

!?

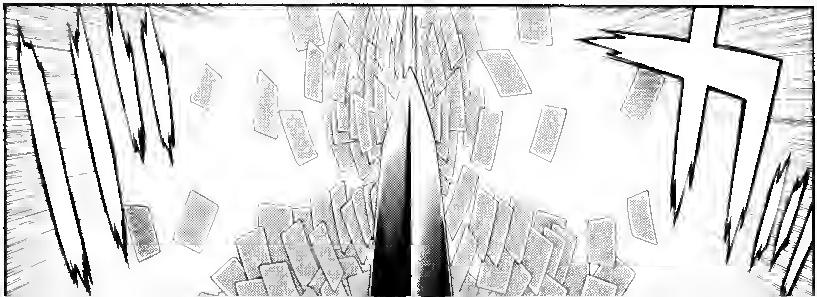
MY TURN.

AUUUUG-GHH!
TAKE THIS BACK TO THE POPE...
HERETICAL BLADE CRUSHER.

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!
MORISAKI-KUN... I REALLY WANTED TO TALK WITH YOU FOR A WHILE.
WHILE IT'S UNFORTUNATE, SINCE THIS ANNOY-ANCE SHOWED UP, I WILL HAVE TO TAKE MY LEAVE FOR TODAY.
THE DEVIL
THE TOWER
THE FOOL
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
SOMETHING HAPPENED TO KUSAKADO?
UGH...

I AM THE UNIFIER OF THE CURRENT YAMATA.
MASUDA SHIROU TOKISADA.

*AMAKUSA SHIROU (ALSO KNOWN BY THE NAME HE GIVES IN THIS MANGA) IS A HISTORICAL FIGURE IN JAPAN WELL KNOWN AS THE LEADER OF A CHRISTIAN UPRISING IN THE 1600S. HE WAS KILLED BY GOVERNMENT FORCES.



BECAUSE SOMEHOW...
WE'LL MEET AGAIN, MORISAKI-KUN...
IT FEELS LIKE YOU AND I ARE BROTHERS.
AHA HA HA HA!
HA HA!

I
THE MAGICIAN

THE MAGICIAN?!
X.14 END

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Conclusion
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Conclusion
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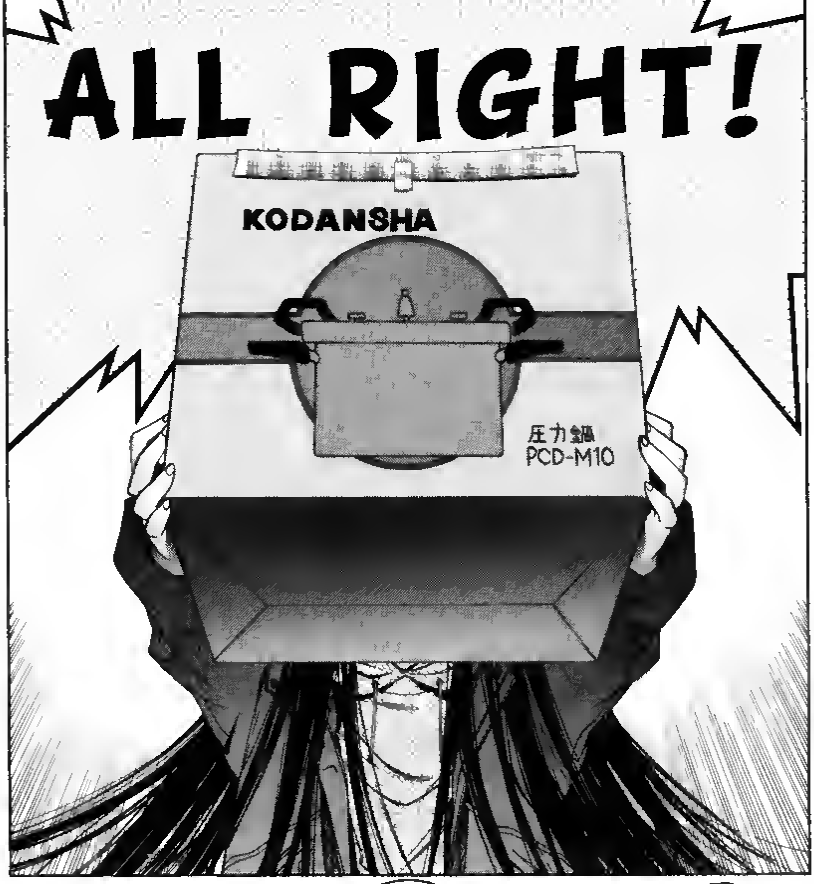
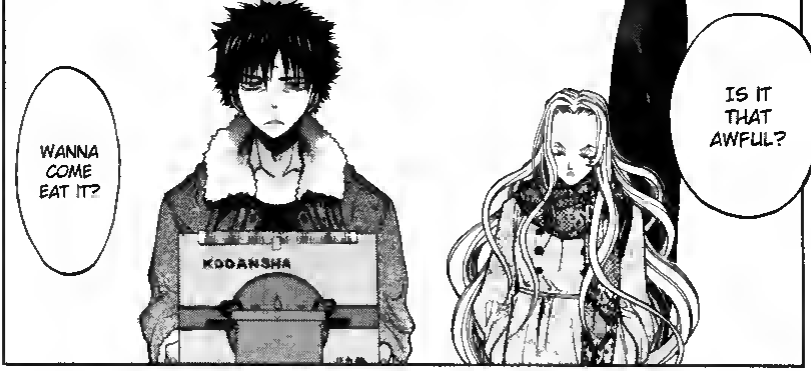
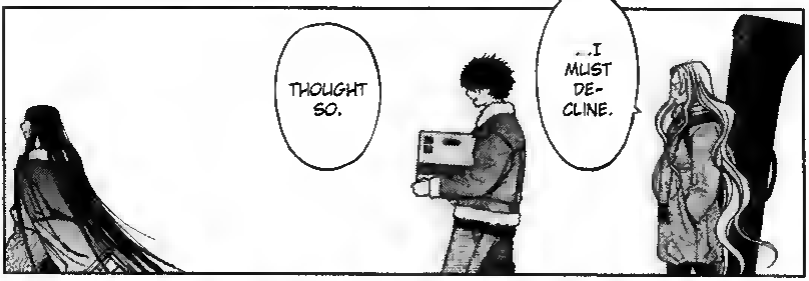

ALL RIGHT!
KODANSHA
圧力鍋
PCD-M10

AH...
A PRESSURE COOKER FOR ONLY 3,000 YEN! WHAT A BARGAIN, RIGHT, HARU?
THAT KITCHEN REMODELING STORE WAS AMAZING!

WITH THIS I CAN DO ALL THAT COOKING I'VE SEEN ON TV!
JUST YOU WAIT, HARU!
CARRY IT FOR ME!
WAI-
HEY, MANA!
HEY, I SAID!

DO YOU REALLY THINK YOUR COOKING IS GOING TO SUDDENLY IMPROVE JUST BECAUSE YOU GOT SOME MACHINE?!
X.15 FATE


WANNA COME EAT IT?
KODANSHA
IS IT THAT AWFUL?


THOUGHT SO.
..I MUST DE-CLINE.

BY THE WAY...
.....

.....
THAT GUY FROM BEFORE... YOU CALLED HIM AMAKUSA SHIROU.

DO YOU MEAN THE AMAKUSA SHIROU?
THE REVOLT AT SHIMABARA, CHRISTIANITY, ALL THAT...
I HEARD ALL ABOUT IT IN JAPANESE HISTORY CLASS.
SEE THE NOTE IN THE PREVIOUS CHAPTER
HAS HE ALSO...
PASSED THROUGH THE AGES LIKE MANA?

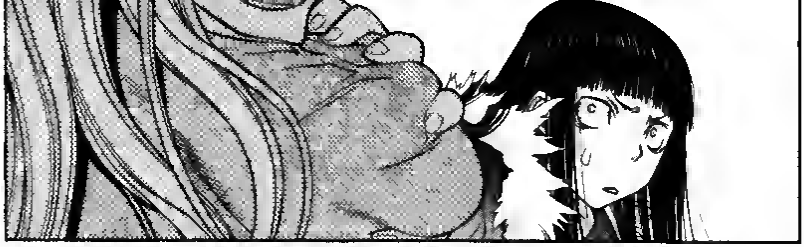
DON'T GROUP THEM TOGETHER.
THAT MAN IS...
AMAKUSA SHIROU IS NO LONGER A HUMAN.
HE WARPS THE DARKNESS AROUND HIM TO GIVE HIMSELF HUMAN FORM.
HE'S A DOLL.
HUH...
IS THAT SO? SEEMS LIKE YOU'RE NOT UNFAMILIAR WITH HIM.
.....
KUSAKADO...
HEY,

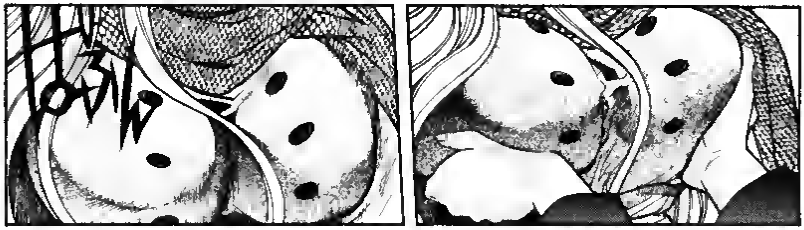
WHAT IS... JIN?
THAT... IMAGE OF A HAND WITH AN EYE IN THE MIDDLE.
AND IT SEEMS LIKE I'VE ALSO MET IT SOMEHOW...
MANA SAID IT WAS WHAT MADE HER INTO A SWORD.

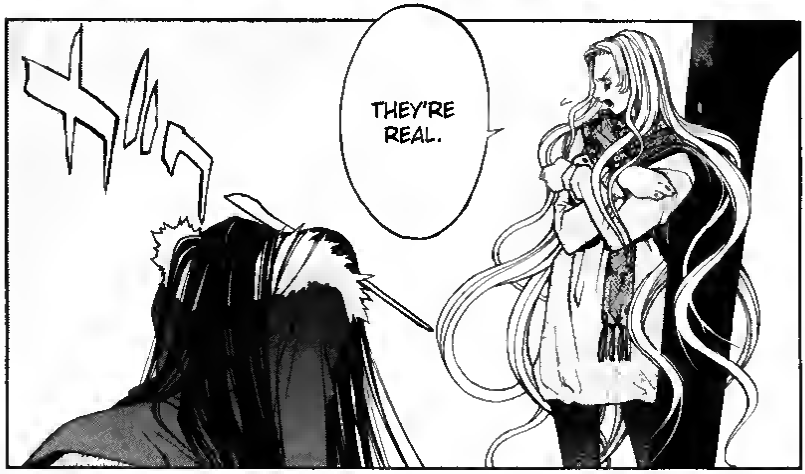
DURING THE DESTRUCTION OF TOKYO,
JUST AS I LOST CONSCIOUSNESS.
SAY SOMETHING!
COME ON!
HIS "BROTHER" OR SOMETHING!
AMAKUSA SHIROU CALLED ME

HEY!!
IN OTHER WORDS...
WHAT ARE YOU TWO MUTTERING ABOUT?
IN FACT,
WHO IS THIS?! WHY IS SHE EVEN HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?!

AH...
WELL, SHE'S...
DON'T YOU GET IT, HARU?
YOUR BODY ISN'T JUST YOUR OWN!
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU BECOMING INTIMATE WITH OTHER WOMEN.
AND THAT INCLUDES THIS
THIS..
FAKE-BREASTED WOMAN!!



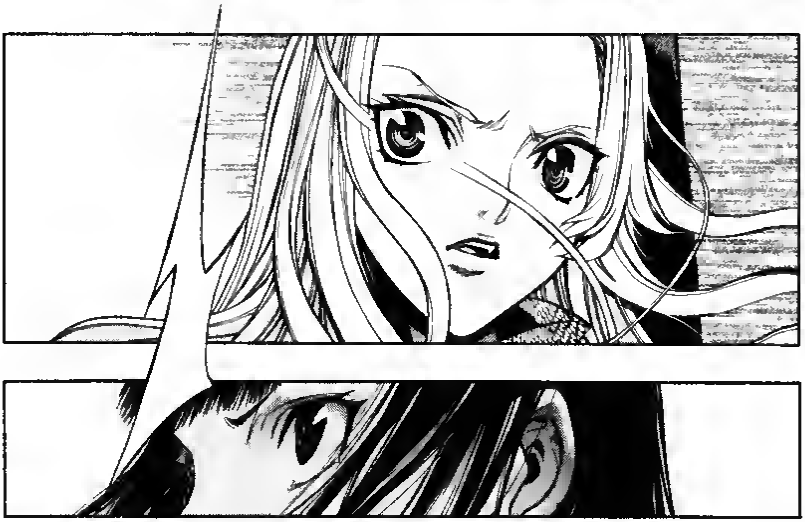



THEY'RE REAL.

KRIS IS SERIOUSLY NOTHING LIKE THAT.
HEY,
I GUESS THAT'S HOW YOU LIKE THEM, HARU?
SO...

WAIT A MINUTE...
!
THAT KUUSHIROU...
I ALWAYS THOUGHT HE WAS AMAZING BEFORE, BUT
COULD IT BE THAT HE'S ACTUALLY...
A HUGE LOLICON?!
OWWW!

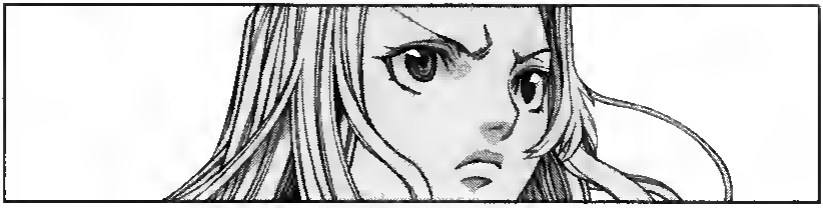
WHAT?!
THAT HURT! WHAT'RE YOU DOING, MANA?!
SILENCE! ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE FUN OF ME?!
NOO, IT'S JUST 'CAUSE I OON'T KNOW ANY-THING ABOUT KUUSH-IROU!



dench
YOU COULD AT LEAST TRY TELLING ME A BIT OF WHAT'S GOING ON
dench
HUH? WHAT? DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM TOO, KUSA-KADO?
MORI-SAKI! WAIT!

WHAT THE HELL HAP-PENED TO YOU?!
WH-
YOU... AREN'T YOU FUJI-MARU?!
MO... MORI-SAKI HARUMI ?
!
GET OUT OF MY WAY, KID!
!?
HOLD ON...
OLD MAN!
HEY! WHAT HAPPENED,

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, KUSA-KADO? MOVE!
!



SOUJI...

...HE DID THIS
TO YOU?

GAA
HH
AAA
AAA
AHH!

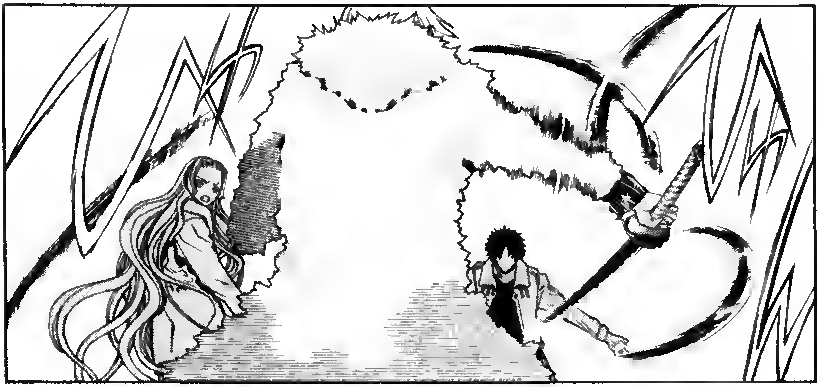
EH?
HURRY UP AND RUN.
WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT?
MORISAKI.

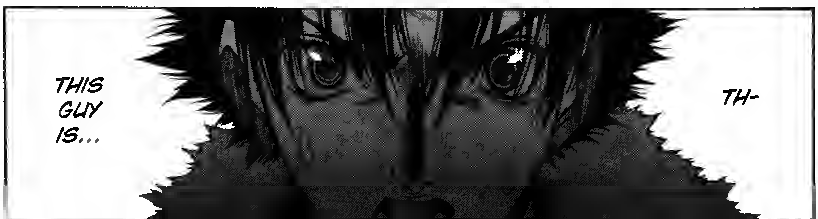
NO WAY!
THOSE TWO ARE BOTH MEMBERS OF THE SEVEN SHEATHES.
THEIR INTERNAL STRUGGLES DON'T CONCERN YOU.
!!

STOP
!!
!?

THAT... MORON!
HARU! YOU IDIOT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?!
MORISAKI!

UGH...



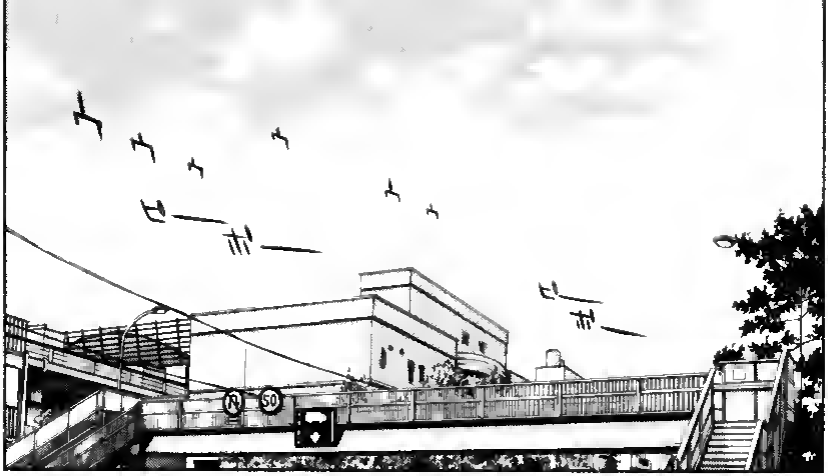

THIS GUY IS...
TH-

A...
ARE YOU MURDER-ERS?!
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
yup! yup!
EEEEEEEK!
EE EE EK!

FUJI-MARU!!
FUJI-MARU!

HELP HIM...
HELP
H...
HEY...

SAVE FUJI-MARU!!
PLEASE! HELP HIM!!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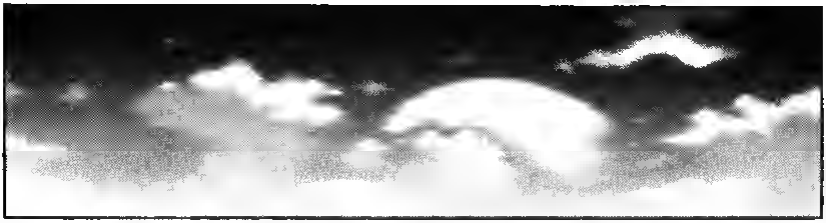
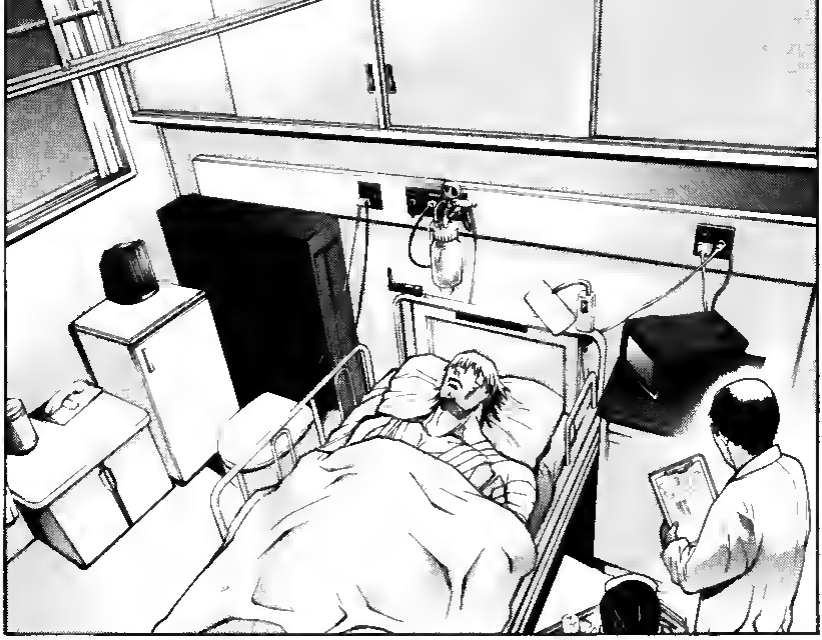
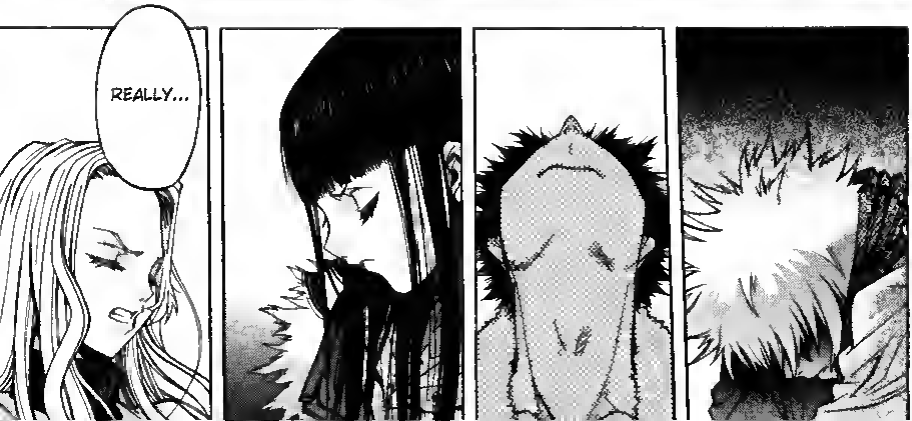





REALLY...

DO YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND YOUR OWN SITUATION?!
IS THERE NO LIMIT TO YOUR IDIOCY?!

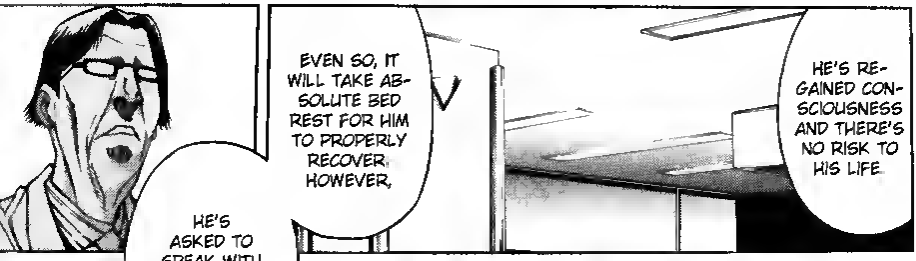
YOU ONLY HAVE ONE BODY!
SHE'S EXACTLY RIGHT!

VERY THANKFUL FOR THAT
WELL, I'M
AH...
I EVEN MADE AN ARRANGEMENT WITH THE HOLLYHOCK SYNDICATE TO SECURE A HOSPITAL...

FU
JI
JI MA RU

WHICH OF YOU IS MORISAKI-KUN?

AH,
THAT'S ME
COULD YOU COME WITH ME FOR A BIT?

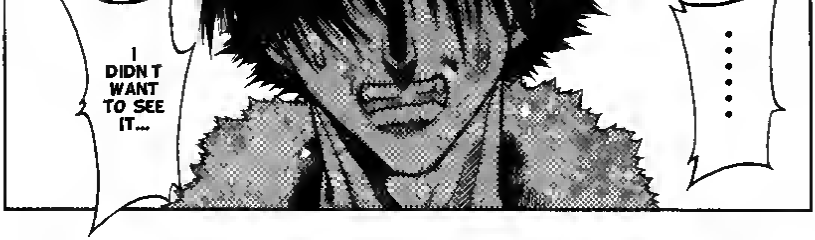

HE'S RE-GAINED CON-SCIOUSNESS AND THERE'S NO RISK TO HIS LIFE.
EVEN SO, IT WILL TAKE AB-SOLUTE BED REST FOR HIM TO PROPERLY RECOVER. HOWEVER,
HE'S ASKED TO SPEAK WITH YOU FACE-TO-FACE, MORISAKI-KUN.

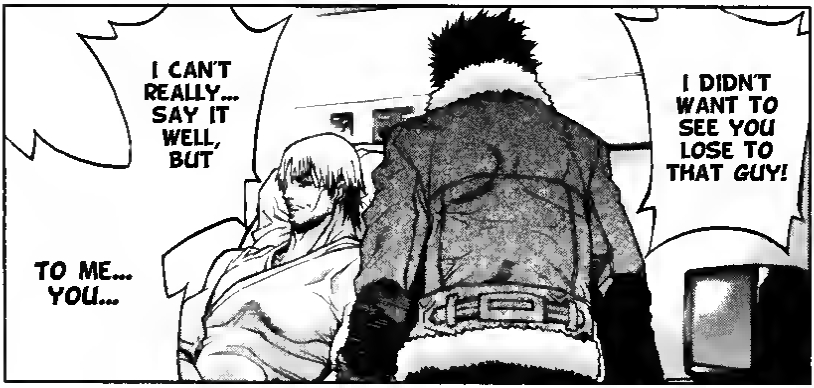
HEY.

HARD TO BELIEVE I'VE BEEN SAVED BY YOU.
FUFU... YOU'RE SEEING ME IN QUITE A PATHETIC STATE.

HE'S ALSO ONE OF THE SEVEN SHEATHES, RIGHT? THEN WHY-
JUST WHAT IN THE HELL HAP-PENED, OLD MAN?!
WHAT...

I HAD A BIT OF A DISAGREEMENT WITH THE ORGANIZATION...
THEY WERE CHASING ME DOWN.
MORISAKI.
WHY DID YOU SAVE ME?
I GUESS... BECAUSE YOU SAVED ME BEFORE.
AND ALSO...

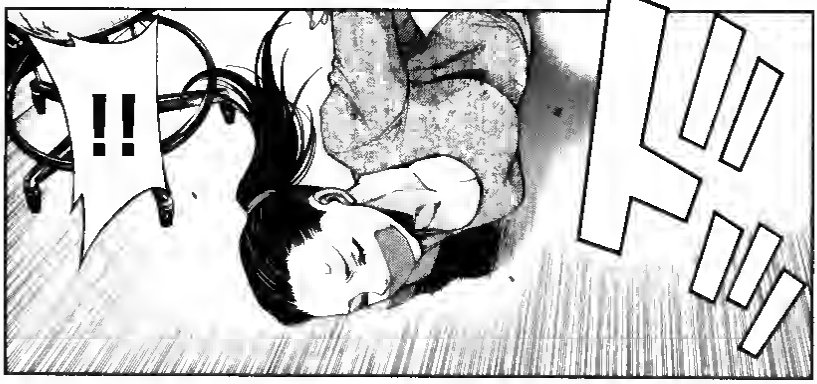

I DIDN'T WANT TO SEE IT...
.....


I CAN'T REALLY... SAY IT WELL, BUT
I DIDN'T WANT TO SEE YOU LOSE TO THAT GUY!
TO ME... YOU...

YOU...
HAVE TO BE SOMEONE STRONG!

I'M THE ONE WHO DRAGGED YOU INTO ALL THIS.
...THAT'S RIGHT.
WAS THAT GUY BEFORE REALLY SO STRONG?
THE DOCTOR THOUGHT YOU'D BEEN SHOT IN THE LEG...
HAH!
I DON'T NEED ANY EXCUSES.
THAT GUY IS..
SOUJI IS STRONG!
HE'S A GENIUS.

ナースステーション


!!
ドン!!!

UH...
THE HELL? THE CHEST ON THESE CLOTHES IS ALL BAGGY.

SOOOORRY!
OH WELL, WHATEVER. I'LL BE BORROWING THIS.
X.15 END

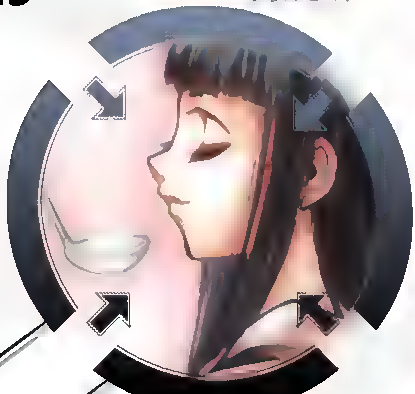
VISIT US!!

WE APPRECIATE ANY FEEDBACK FOR THIS SERIES.

SCAN : XINAN
TL : KUROSHIRO
PROOF : CONCLUSION
EDIT : MONSTABOT
QC : CONCLUSION

©monstabot

Translator: Kurashiro
PR: Conclusion
Editor: CassiusOS
Xip
Last
QC: Conclusion
Cassiusos



# XBLADE

## V.04 C.16

*Note from CassiusOS*
*OMFG At first I didn't really understand why it took so freakin' long to release a chapter of this series. Now I know.*
*It took 3 good editors 2 MONTHS to get 2 chapters finished. I know for a fact this has taken upwards of 40 man hours. That's a full working week, and around 35 minutes per page. And I'm certainly understating that. (I know this because I have a video of me cleaning 1/2 of a page, and it's 40 minutes long.*
*If I was the type who would accept NCIS releasing par chapters, it would have taken less. But I'm not, and it's not. Thank god these chapters are finished.*

#NCIS @irc.irchighway.net

Currently Recruiting
*J>E Translators for all projects*
*Cleaner and/or Typesetter for "H" and "Sensei"*

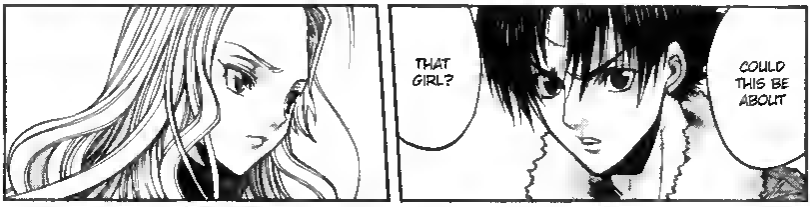
***We are in desperate need of TL. Please apply on our forums or send an e-mail to.***
*ncis.staff@gmail.com*

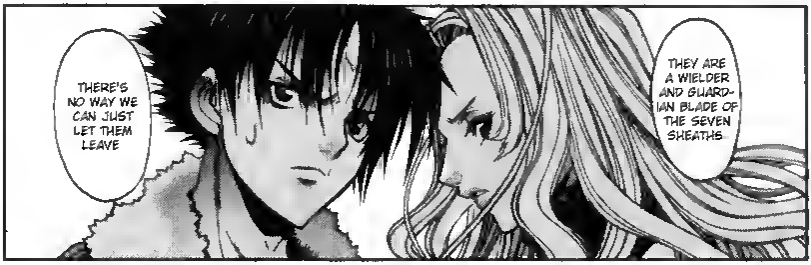
www.ncismanga.net

BE PATIENT, IT'LL ONLY TAKE A SEC.
ナースステーション
X.16 ACCELERATE

THAT...
THAT'S RIGHT.
SOUJI... THAT GUY IS ALMOST ONE WITH THE SWORD... HE'S THE REAL DEAL.
A GENIUS, YOU SAID?
THAT GUY IS

MORISAKI
SORRY, BUT I HAVE TO LEAVE FOR A MOMENT
THE HOLLY-HOCK SYNDICATE HAS FORTIFIED THIS FLOOR, SO IT SHOULD BE OKAY, BUT..
WHAT IS IT?
DO YOU MEAN...?
!!!!
AH .


COULD THIS BE ABOUT
THAT GIRL?


THEY ARE A WIELDER AND GUARDIAN BLADE OF THE SEVEN SHEATHS
THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN JUST LET THEM LEAVE

BUT...

I KNOW
I'LL TRY TO GET A TRANQUIL-IZER FOR HER OR SOME-THING
MORISAKI
I'LL LEAVE THE REST TO YOU
...MANA!

非常口

SEEMS I'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO BE CAPTURED BY SOMEONE.
WELL, NO GETTING AROUND THE SITUATION.

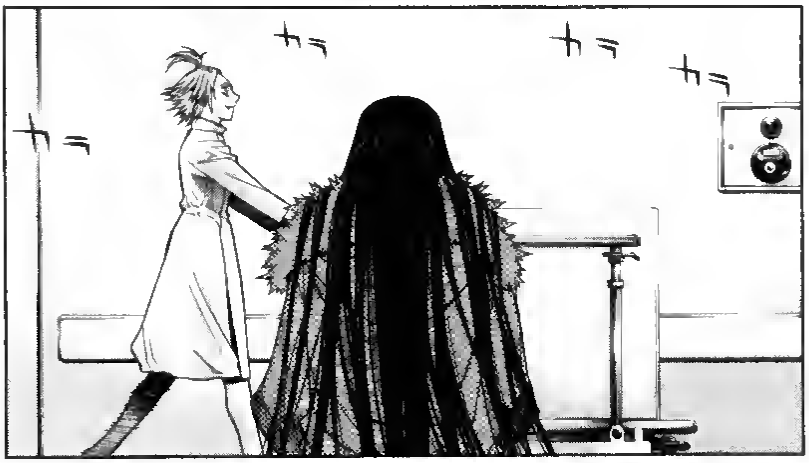
I GUESS WE BECAME LIKE ONE PERSON WITHOUT EVEN NOTICING.
I'VE BEEN TOGETHER WITH KANAME EVER SINCE WE WERE LITTLE.

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT HER?
YOU TWO LOVERS OR SOME-THING?

I WONDER IF...
ALL THE WIELDERS AND GUARDIAN BLADES ARE LIKE THAT...
HEY...
OLD MAN. DO YOU KNOW JIN?

I HEARD HE MAKES PEOPLE INTO SWORDS
IS THAT TRUE OF YOUR COMPANION TOO?
...SORT OF
FIRST OF ALL,
I'VE HEARD THAT THE METAMORPHOSING GUARDIAN BLADES WE OF THE SEVEN SHEATHS USE
ARE NOT ACTUALLY MADE BY JIN,
BUT RATHER ARE PRODUCED BY YAMATA USING THE SAME TECHNIQUES

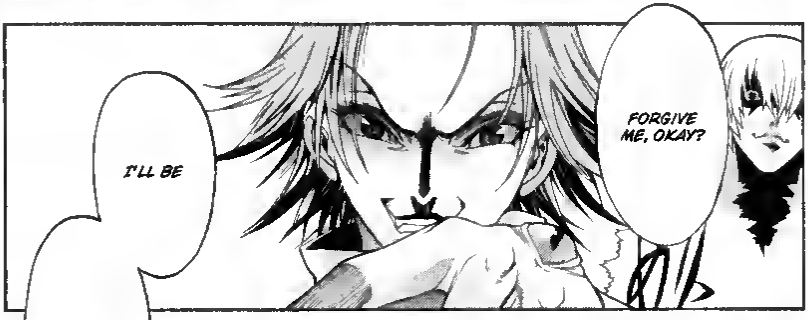
SO .. THOUGH I'VE HEARD OF THIS JIN,
THEY ALSO DON'T USE THE THREE SACRED TREASURES AS A MEDIUM..
I HAVE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN HIM
I DON'T KNOW ANY MORE DETAILS



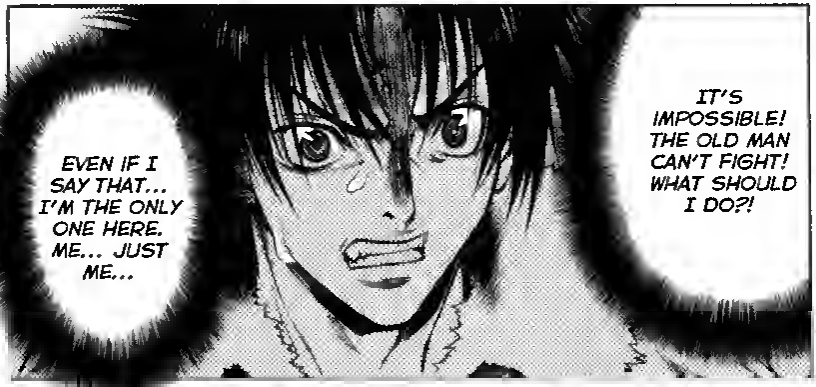
I'M BARGING RIGHT IN!
I'VE COME TO CHANGE YOUR SHEETS!
HUH?
CHANGING SHEETS? AT THIS HOUR?
!!

SHINOJI-KA!
THAT'S RIIIGHT!
!?
WHA...

UGH...


FORGIVE ME, OKAY?
I'LL BE

TAKING YOUR LIFE.


IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! THE OLD MAN CAN'T FIGHT! WHAT SHOULD I DO?!
EVEN IF I SAY THAT... I'M THE ONLY ONE HERE. ME... JUST ME...

I CAN FIGHT!

LEND ME YOUR STRENGTH KUUSHIROU!
.....
THE HELL ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?
DAMNIIIIT!

HEAR ME!!
PLEASE, LET MANA

ヒカリ

KUU...
SHIROU...
MAA
NAAAA!

...HARU?!

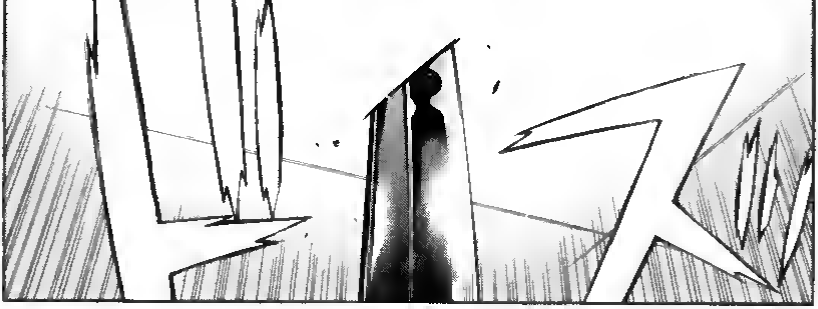
HEH...
HEH HEH...

OLD MAN!!
I'LL...
I'LL PROTECT
YOU,

!?
HE'S DIFFERENT... FROM BEFORE?
HE'S STILL HARU?

HARU!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
HARU!
HURRY AND CHANGE INTO KUUSHIROU!
THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN ...
LET'S GO, MANA...

OHHH...
UUOOOOOOOOOHHH!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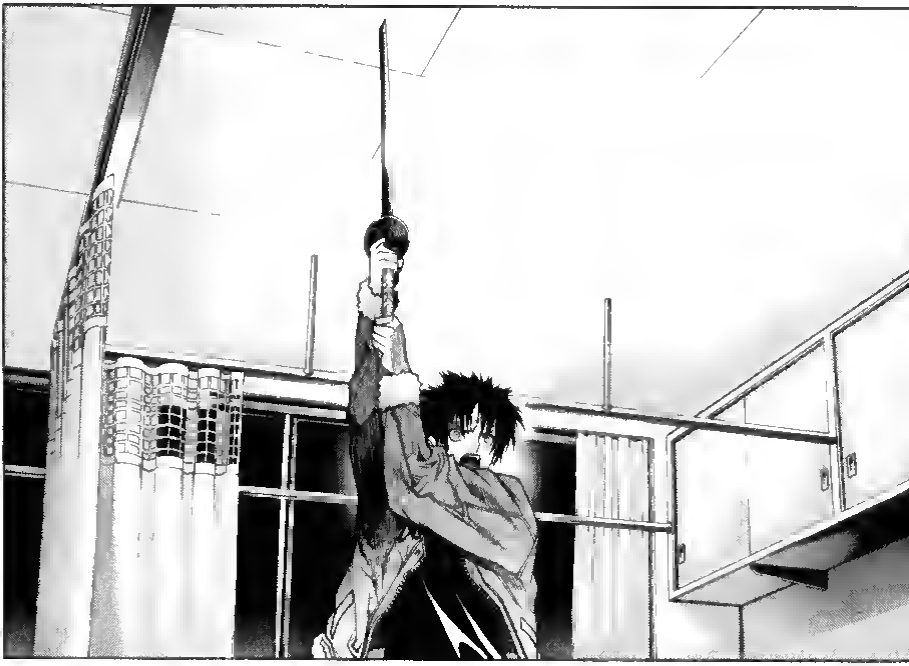
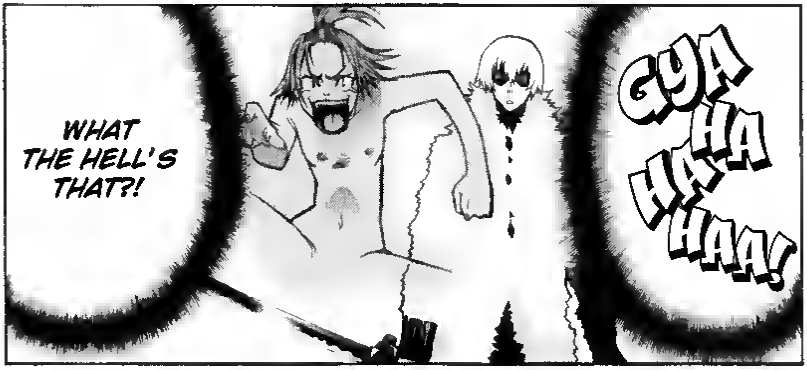


……

HAA RRRUUU


WHAT THE HELL'S THAT?!
GYA HA HA HAA!

RUUUU!!!
HAAAAA

DO YOU UNDERSTAND NOW, HARU?
YOU'RE CAUSING ME TO BE MOCKED BY A CHEAP IMITATION LIKE THAT!!

WH..WHAT SHOULD I DO?
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I HAVEN'T REALLY LEARNED HOW TO FIGHT IN CLOSE QUARTERS LIKE THIS.

ARRRGH!
.....!!
Tsu

OOOOOOH!
THERE'S NO POINT IN THINKING ABOUT IT!
THIS IS ALL I KNOW!
THAT KID!

UGHHH

HANDLE ME WITH MORE CARE!
YOU IDIOT!
AAAABSOLUTELY NO LOGICAL PATH THAT YOUR BLADE WAS FOLLOWING!
THERE WAS
EACH AND EVERY SWING MUST FOLLOW A REASONED PATH!
A LOGICAL PATH!
THE BLADES PATH...
!!
JUST NOW I WASN'T FOLLOWING ANY REAL PATH?
YOU'RE SAYING...

...BASTARD!!

RAAAAHH!
UUU

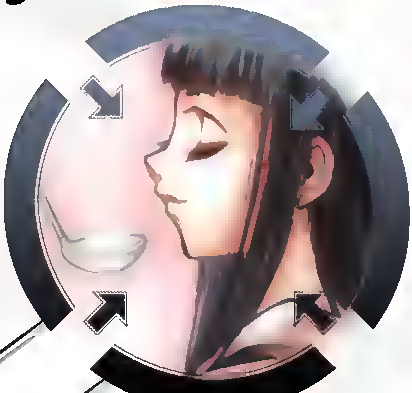
OH...
UGH...
!!

KID!
HAHH
I SAW IT.
HAAAH
THOSE DECEPTIVE MOVEMENTS...
THE SAME AS WHEN I FOUGHT WITH THE OLD GUYS WITH THE SPEAR AND BANDAGE...

HAAAA
HAH
THOSE MOVEMENTS THAT ARE EITHER ON OR OFF...
HAHH
I CAN SEE THEM!

X.16 END

Translator Kurashiro
PR Conclusion
Editor CassiusOS
xlp
no_comxxx
QC Conclusion



# XBLADE

## V.04 C.17

#NCIS @irc.irchighway.net

Currently Recruiting
*Full-time Editor & Proofreader*

*View CassiusOS redrawing this series at:*
*http://www.youtube.com/CassiusOS*

www.ncismanga.net

*Note from CassiusOS*
*Why oh, why...In addition to the numerous (and usual) big-fat-text-over action-shots, this time we have 4 JOIN PAGES IN A ROW and a total of 6 joins in all*

*Somebody needs to track down this mangaka and give him a good talking too.*

*At least the typesetting was easy. I think 90% of the script was "uuuuuoooohhhh" or the like*

HAH!
I REACTED!
HAH
I SAW THEM...
HAA
THE DECEPTIVE MOVEMENTS...
HUOOHH

X.17 FLIGHT
I...CAN DO THIS!
SOUJI'S MOVE-MENTS JUST NOW...

THEY WEREN'T MEANT TO KILL.
IF THAT'S THE CASE...
I WONDER IF HE'S BEEN TOLD NOT TO KILL MORISAKI...
THIS COULD BE THE ONLY CHANCE TO BEAT HIM IN AN ACTUAL FIGHT.
KID!
UOOO OHHH!

GAA
AAH
AAH
GUAA
AAH

GUAAAAH!
...HE'S COMING!
LIKE THIS I CAN...
BUT I CAN SEE THEM!
...THOSE MOVEMENTS AGAIN.

!??
WHA...

UGH...
AHH...
WHAT JUST....
WHAT WAS THAT?
IT VANISHED!

HIS SWORD VANISHED?!
SOUJI...
HE'S CHANGED HIS RHYTHM.

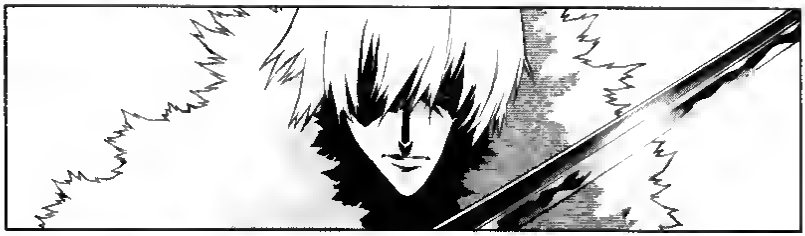
SOUJI IS NOTHING LIKE THE OTHER SEVEN SHEATHS YOU'VE MET UP TO NOW.
WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW, KID?

GUESS I'LL HAVE TO DO IT AFTER ALL...

HMM...
HE TOOK SOUJI'S THRUST BUT CAN STILL MOVE...

NURYAAAHH!!

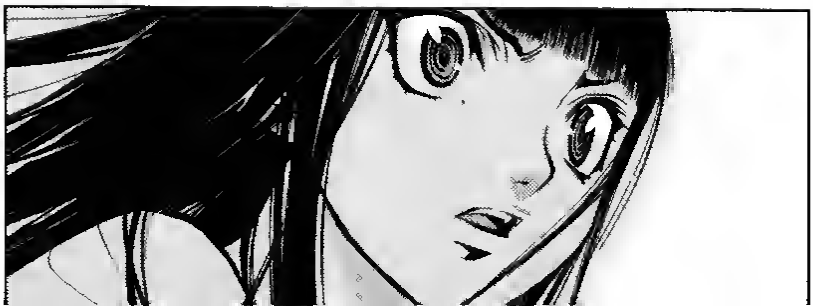
KID!
HE TWISTED HIS BODY AND BARELY AVOIDED THE BLADE!



FUUU
HAAAA
HAAAH

HARU?
HEY...
HAHH
HAAA
EEAAAH!

HARU ISN'T LOOKING AT
THAT MAN... THEN WHAT IS HE...?!



AAA
GAA
AAH

KUUSHIROU!

KU...

THAT'S NOT IT.
NOT YET!
IT'S STILL TOTALLY WRONG!

UGAAHHHH!!
NOT YET
NOT YET
NOT YET!
IT'S DIFFER-EEEEENT!
FOLLOWING KUUSHIROU'S BLADE?!
HARU... COULD HE BE...

HAH
MANA!!
ИШИ
ИШОО
!!
AAAA

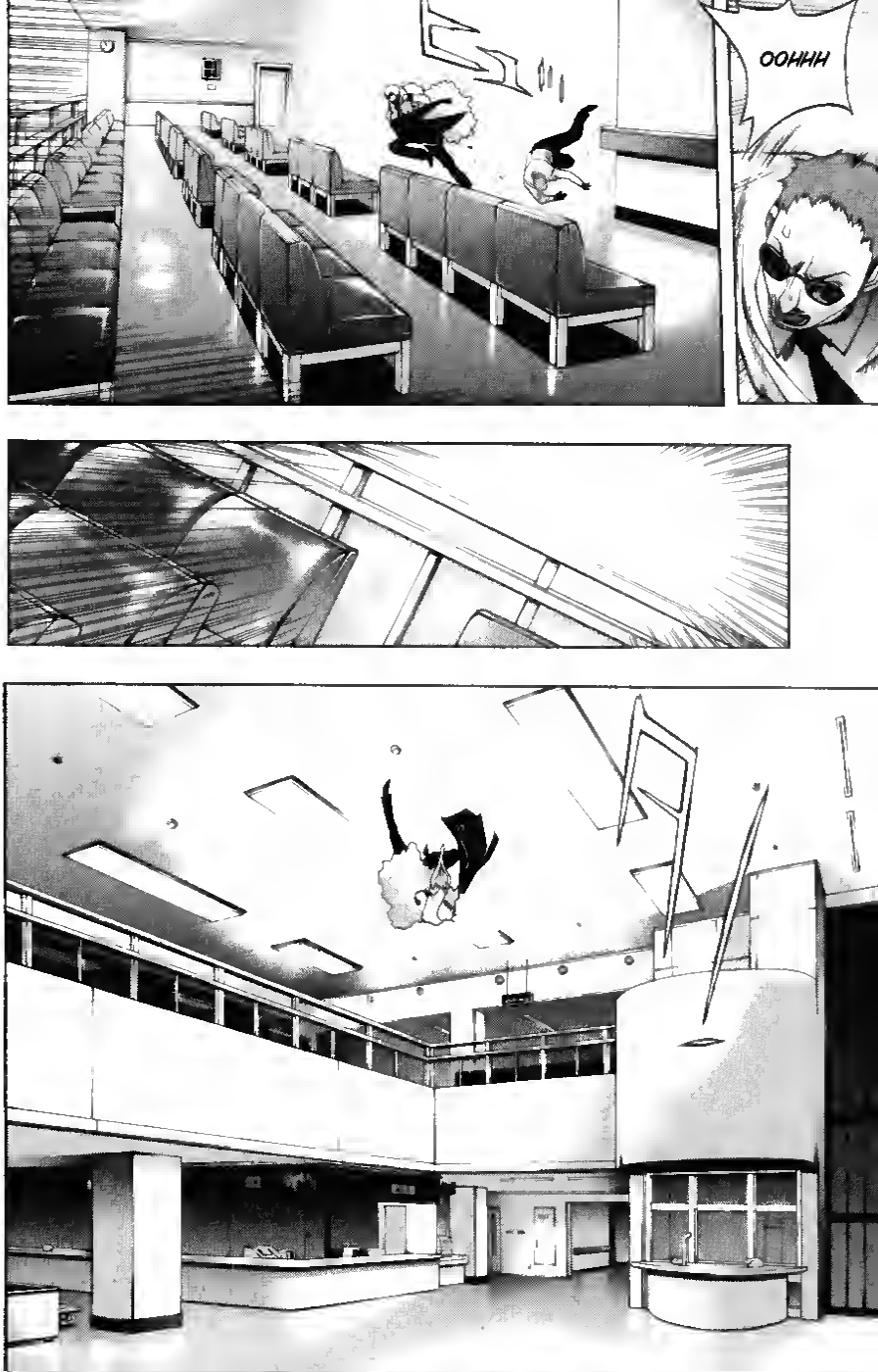
!!
DAMN!

!
HAH
HAH
HAAAHH
HAAA
FUU

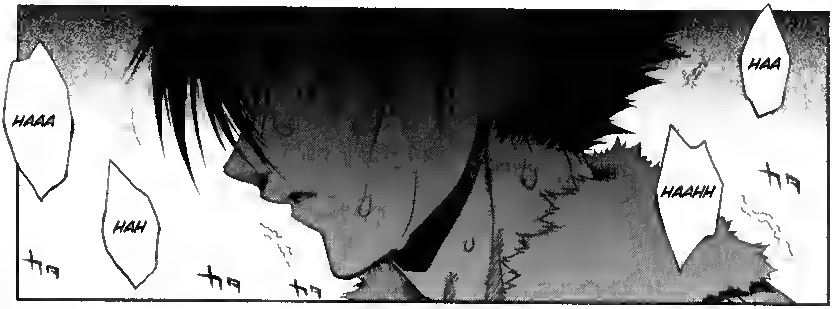
IT'S FROM THE UPPER FLOOR?
WHAT'S ALL THAT NOISE?!
HURRY UP AND QUIET THAT NOISE!
IDIOTS! HOW COULD YOU LET SOMEONE IN?
AN INTRUDER?!
!!
AH...

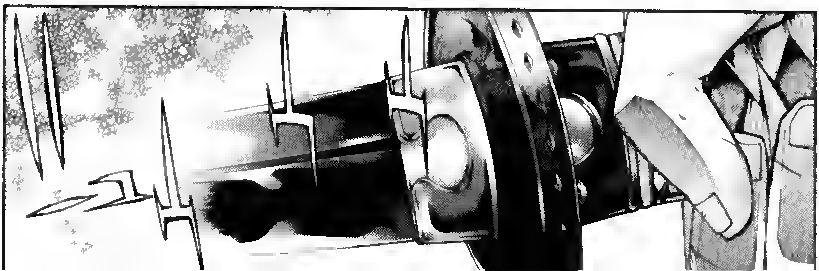
!!!
!!
HE'S FROM YAMA-TA?!

SHIT!
STOP RUNNING AROUND!
ナースステーション
STOP! DON'T SHOOT!
UGH
OHH


OOHHH

HE STILL HAD SOME STRENGTH LEFT IN HIM...
WHAT A GUY...
CONTACT THE MEN BELOW!
AFTER HIM!


HAAA
HAH
HAA
HAAHH



H!!

MA...
MANA...
HEY...
.....

MANA?

EH?
.....

I...
DIOT...

YOU IDIOT!
IDIOT!
IDIOT...
IDIOT...
WAAHH
UUUU
UU

X.17 END

TO BE CONTINUED.